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Public Health Reports

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WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 23, 1897.

No. 17.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Smallpox from steamship Delaware.

DELAWARE BREAKWATER QUARANTINE STATION,

April 13, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to report that 7 of the 9 cases of smallpox were discharged from the pesthouse to-day. The remaining two have practically recovered, but will be held a day or so longer in order that there may be no danger from the desquamation which still persists. I expect to send all the rest of the crew up to Philadelphia on Thursday morning by tug, which will be sent for them by the agent of the vessel. I will request him to have the *Delaware* stop here on her way to sea, on Friday morning, at which time I hope to have the two men ready to join her. The *Delaware* is now loaded, and is lying in the river off League Island, and the crew will go directly on board of her as soon as the tug reaches her.

Respectfully, yours,

C. P. WERTENBAKER,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

On April 15 Dr. Wertenbaker telegraphed as follows:

“Discharged pilot and 36 of crew of steamer *Delaware* from quarantine this morning; remaining two will be put aboard steamer here to-morrow.”

Schooner Wm. J. Lermond arrives at Delaware Breakwater without bill of health.

LEWES, DEL., *April 15, 1897.*

SIR: American schooner *Wm. J. Lermond*, ten days from Habana, sugar, 9 in crew, all well, arrived this morning. Unable to find bills of health, and am holding for observation. * * *

WERTENBAKER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 16, 1897.*

WERTENBAKER: Burgess cables *Lermond* took bills of health April 3, and cargo sugar fumigated three times while loading. Therefore pass if otherwise O. K., and note facts for collector.

WYMAN,
Surgeon-General.

Correspondence concerning smallpox on steamship Victoria at Port Townsend Quarantine.

UNITED STATES QUARANTINE STATION,
(VIA PORT TOWNSEND, WASH.),
April 20, 1897.

Case of smallpox on *Victoria*, occurred among steerage passengers for Nashville Exposition; baggage and bedding of steerage passengers was not steamed until steamer arrived at *Victoria*; steerage passengers will be detained in quarantine here fourteen days from time of disinfection in *Victoria*, as bedding and baggage were liable to convey infection up to that time. The baggage was carried in bunks with passengers. Please wire if this action is approved. Number of steerage passengers 345, vessel with crew and other passengers released.

STIMPSON,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

TACOMA, WASH., *April 20, 1897.*

Three hundred and forty-five Asiatics from steamer *Victoria* have been detained at Diamond Point Quarantine Station. Steamer left Yokohama April 4; no sickness since; health and general sanitary condition of vessel excellent. Reason given for detention is that health officer at Yokohama fumigated with sulphur instead of steam. Shall be obliged if you will inquire into this case with a view to earlier release than fourteen days.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 21, 1897.*

Dr. STIMPSON,
Port Townsend Quarantine, Port Townsend, Wash.

Your action in detaining Asiatics approved.

WYMAN,
Surgeon-General.

Smallpox in Mobile, Ala.

MOBILE, ALA., *April 17, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that a colored man named William Lenson called at the office of the county health officer yesterday suffering with smallpox. He has been working at Baird's mill, about 1 mile from the city limits, and slept with Greeley, the last case, March 28, up to the time Greeley sought relief.

Lenson was promptly sent to the pesthouse. No other cases are known.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. D. MURRAY,
Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.